

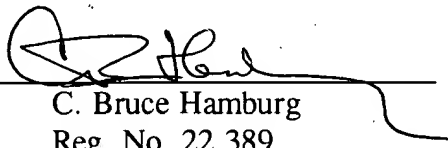
REMARKS

Upon entry of the Amendment After Final Rejection Under 37 CFR 1.116, as requested in an RCE filed concurrently herewith, and this Preliminary Amendment, claims 11-31 will be in this application. Claims 1-10 are cancelled.

In this Preliminary Amendment, claims 11 and 28 are amended to clarify that the first pressure-sensitive adhesive extends over the entire top surface of the backing layer and is adhered to the floor covering without an interposed substrate and that the second pressure-sensitive adhesive coating extends over the entire bottom surface of the backing layer and is adhered to the floor without an interposed substrate. As argued in the Response After Final Rejection Under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 filed June 25, 2003, Marchal does not disclose adhesive coatings which cover or extend over the entire surface of a backing layer and which are adhered to a floor or floor covering without an interposed substrate, such as a sheet with perforations.

In light of the changes to the claims and arguments set forth in the Response After Final Rejection Under 37 CFR 1.116, the application is now believed to be in proper form for allowance of all claims and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

Respectfully submitted,
JORDAN AND HAMBURG LLP

By 
C. Bruce Hamburg
Reg. No. 22,389
Attorney for Applicants

Jordan and Hamburg LLP
122 East 42nd Street
New York, New York 10168
(212) 986-2340